

John R. Koppmann Home  
San Antonio, Texas.

HABS No. Tex-396

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15. SANT

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Texas-3

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Bartlett Cooke, District Officer  
615 Maverick Bldg., San Antonio, Texas.

15. SANT

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JOHN R. KAMPMANN HOME  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Owner: John R. Kampmann Estate

Date of Erection: Prior to 1850

Architect: Unknown

Builder: John R. Kampmann

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Two, the first floor being half basement.

Materials of Construction: Native stone, walnut, oak, cypress and pine.

Other Existing Records: None

Additional Data:

This house is built of native limestone, stuccoed on the exterior and plastered on the interior. Woodwork is cypress, walnut, oak and pine. In effect the house is one story, but in reality it is two story, the first floor consisting of a half basement. The windows in the basement floor are about four and one half feet above the floor. The stairway from the basement floor to the main floor of the house is built practically of walnut, the craftsmanship of which is very creditable.

Plan of the house is "L" shape. Roof pitch over main portion of building is approximately six to twelve. Roof was originally covered with cypress shingles, but now covered with standing seam galvanized iron.

A porch extends across the entire front of the house. Windows in the basement are about six inches above the outside ground, are transom type, and glazed with stained glass. The windows on the main floor are twelve light, double hung type, sills of which are about six inches above the floor. Window and door frames were milled in the East, shipped to the old town of Indianola, and hauled overland by ox cart. Sills are of native cypress.

Flooring is random width tongue and grooved pine; ceilings are of plaster, some of which are very ornately decorated.

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The house originally contained sixteen rooms. The plastering and interior decorating was done by an Italian brought over to this country by Mr. Kamphmann. Two sets of bath room fixtures were bought in Germany at the same time Mr. Kamphmann hired his Italian plasterer. These were the first complete baths to be installed in the City of San Antonio.

The stable building, just to the rear, is two stories and built of wood, the exterior of which is rather ornate. The exterior is built of boards and battens with "saw-mill lace" around the cornice. The stable building was used as stables, storage of harness, carriages, etc., on the first floor, and as a bunk house on the second floor.

Credit is due Mr. August Herff, Architect, San Antonio, Texas, for much of this information.

Author: Homar H. Lansberry  
Homar H. Lansberry

APPROVED: Bartlett Cocke  
Bartlett Cocke, Dist. Officer.

Date: February 16, 1937

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